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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

Bulgaria

REPORT

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SUBJECT

1. Sofia-Burgas RR and Road;
2. Rumored Construction of New RR and Canal.

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This is UNEVALUATED
Information

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PLEASE ROUTE

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Attached is a two-page report on:

- a. The Sofia-Burgas railroad line and road, including bridge information;
- b. Rumored railroad construction between Burgas and Varna and Burgas and Grudovo;
- c. Rumored construction of a Pazardzhik-Burgas canal.

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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; field distribution by "#")

25X1

Subject: **1. Transportation in Vicinity of Venets Village, Polyanovgrad Okoliya.** Report No.

2. Rumored Construction of New Railroads

3. Rumored Construction of New Canal

Date of Information:

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Date Acquired:

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Date of Report: **12 November 1956**

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Sofia-Burgas Railroad

1. Venets is 2.5 kilometers from the Sofia-Burgas railroad. The railroad station nearest to Venets is Naychevo (N 42-37, E 26-53), this being the station which services Devotintsi (N 42-36, E 26-50), Devetak (N 42-35, E 26-50), Draganova (N 42-34, E 26-47), San Stefani (N 42-31, E 26-53), Zheleznik (N 42-35, E 26-54), and Tas Tepe (N 42-32, E 26-56) villages in Polyanovgrad Okoliya, and the Tsanko Tserkovtsi State Farm, which is near Naychevo. All that these villages produce is marketed through Naychevo station, for which reason extensive grain storerooms are located there.
2. The Sofia-Burgas railroad is a single-track line, and there are no tunnels on this railroad. two bridges on this railroad, as follows:
 - a. One bridge is between Iskra (N 42-41, E 26-53) and Naychevo villages and is over the Amaka stream. This bridge, which is 40 meters long, is a steel bridge.
 - b. The other bridge, which spans Marash stream, is between the Naychevo and Atalevo (N 42-36, E 26-45) stations. This bridge is also made of steel and is 30 meters long.

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Classification

CONFIDENTIAL

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12 November 1956
Page 2Sofia-Burgas Highway

There is a highway leading from Sofia to Burgas via Gorna Oryakhovitsa (N 43-07, E 25-42), Kolarovgrad (N 43-16, E 26-54), and Polyanovgrad (N 42-39, E 26-59), which passes through [redacted] Venets. In addition, there is a macadam highway 3.5 kilometers long and 6 or 8 meters wide which leads from Venets to Gara Naychevo. Both highways are all-season roads. The inhabitants of Venets village use these two highways mainly for transporting their goods.

The Sofia-Burgas highway is 10 or 12 meters wide and it is macadamised. The part of the highway between Polyanovgrad and Burgas is being macadamised now and this part provides a shortcut between these two cities. As it is a main artery, the road is in good condition. The Sofia-Burgas highway, like the Sofia-Burgas railway, passes over the Asmaka and Marash streams and has the following bridges:

The bridge over the Asmaka stream is made of stone, and it is 30 or 40 meters long and has four or five arches and six pillars. The pillars were constructed of cut stones. This bridge will withstand the heaviest trucks passing over it. There is water under the bridge all year round, but in case the bridge is destroyed, it is possible to ford the stream.

The bridge over the Marash stream is also made of stone, and it is 35 or 40 meters long. [redacted] how many arches it has but [redacted] this bridge is able to withstand the heaviest vehicles passing over it. In case the bridge is destroyed, it is possible to ford the stream. During a drought, the stream dries up.

Planned Construction of New Railroads

[redacted] a new railroad line was being constructed between Burgas and Varna, but he does not know anything about its progress. [redacted]

[redacted] a railroad line will be constructed between Burgas and Oradevo (N 42-21, E 27-11), but the construction has not yet begun. Towards the end of 1955, some engineers came from Sofia and surveyed the land around Venets village.

Planned Construction of a New Canal

[redacted] a canal will be dug between Burgas and Pasardzhik (N 42-11, E 24-20), and the water from the Maritsa River will be diverted into this canal at Pasardzhik, from where the water will flow into the Black Sea. This will enable boats from the Black Sea to go up to Pasardzhik and Plovdiv. [redacted] work on the construction of the canal has begun. [redacted] Comment: An article was published in the Nauchestven Front newspaper on 25 April 1956 concerning this canal, and the localities through which it will pass were shown on a sketch contained therein.)

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